

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017  
**St Nicholas CE Primary Academy**  
**Weekly Newsletter**

Headteacher: Christopher Dale



Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last few weeks we have sent letters on how to help your child at home with times tables, spellings and how this links to national expectations. This week we will be relaunching Buster's Book Club and reminding children as to how often and for how long they should read at home. For this to be effective and successful it can only be achieved with support from parents.

In a paper recently published in the journal of the Royal Society academics say: "Pupils whose parents take only a limited interest in their learning are far more likely than their peers to drop out of school. It is parents who have the greatest influence on whether or not pupils perform well and stay in school, the research has found". While this research is new I do not find it at all surprising. It is only by working together that children have any opportunity to improve. In light of this, and the information sent home recently, I would like to continue to encourage parents to find the time to support your child at home with their spellings, times tables and reading. I look forward to being able to see many of you at next week's curriculum fayre, where a crèche will be provided for the over 5s.

Over the last few weeks I have noticed that there are many children who do not have appropriate PE kit in school and are not properly dressed for either the lesson or the conditions. Please can I remind parents that PE is part of the curriculum and the expectations that PE uniform guidelines are also adhered to. A copy of the policy can be found on our website: [www.st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk/policies-documents](http://www.st-nicholas-newromney.kent.sch.uk/policies-documents)

Yours sincerely

Christopher Dale  
Headteacher

**CURRICULUM FAYRE**

A reminder for parents that our Curriculum Fayre will be taking place on;  
**THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY from 6.00pm to 7.30pm**

This will be an opportunity for parents to find out more about the way your child is taught and how you can help at home.

Sessions will focus on the way in which reading, writing, maths and phonics is taught across the school in the different year groups and there will be opportunity for parents to attend more than one session in case they have siblings across year groups.

All who attend will also be entered into a raffle to win a family ticket for 4 to LEGOLAND Windsor Resort.



**Dates for your diary**

**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Jan**

Yr 2 Rugby Tots –  
Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> Jan**

NSPCC Assembly  
visits to KS1 & 2 pupils

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb**

Curriculum Fayre  
6pm – 7.30pm

**Week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - E-Safety Week**

**Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Feb**

Safer Internet Day

**Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Feb**

E-safety presentation  
for parents – 2.15pm

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Feb**

NSPCC Danceathon &  
Mannequin challenge  
day

**TERM DATES 2017**

**TERM 3**

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan – Fri  
10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017**

**TERM 4**

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri  
31<sup>st</sup> March**

**TERM 5**

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> April – Fri  
26<sup>th</sup> May**

**TERM 6**

**Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June – Fri  
21<sup>st</sup> July**

**INSET DAYS**

**School Closed to  
Children  
Tues 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May  
Bank Holiday Monday –  
school closed**

## Buster's Book Club

Last week we were looking for the most improved reading.

In KS1 it was Squirrels with 65%

In KS2 it was Rowan with 79%



## CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH CLASSES

Over the next week Mrs Longman will be relaunching Buster's Book Club within the school with **all** pupils. Surprisingly over the last year Key Stage 2 pupils have completed more minutes of reading than Key Stage 1 pupils!

As a school we want to do everything we can to help your child to read and write – and we will.

But we want children to read and write really well so that they are confident. If you help us, this confidence improves and your child will start to do well.

Please make sure you read with your child EVERY DAY and watch out for the new information on Busters Book Club. We have included the recommended minute targets below for each year group.

### Guidance targets for each year group for reading

Year R & 1 - 10 minutes daily

Year 2 & 3 - 15 minutes daily

Year 4, 5 & 6 - 20 minutes daily

## Attendance – Every Day Counts

School attendance is vital for young people to reach their full potential and is therefore a priority for St Nicholas Academy.

**Our whole-school attendance so far, this year is 96.2%.**

Class attendance rates last week were:			
Hedgehogs	96.7%	Kites	96.0%
Squirrels	99.4%	Chestnut	94.8%
Badgers	98.3%	Birch	98.5%
Otters	96.7%	Maple	88.4%
Owls	99.2%	Willow	99.2%
Eagles	94.3%	Rowan	92.1%
Kestrels	97.7%	Beech	99.1%

The Class with the best punctuality was Hedgehogs, Badgers and Eagles with no Lates.

**Thank you for realising the importance of sending your child to school every day.**

## Star Awards - Star of the week awards went to:



**Squirrels:** Harry C, **Otters:** Danny D, **Owls:** Keeley G,  
**Kites:** Ashleigh R, **Chestnuts:** Zeeka F, **Maple:** Madison S,  
**Beech:** Ethan C

## Work to be proud of awards went to:

**Hedgehogs:** Ryan S, **Badgers:** Chloe R, **Eagles:** Tyler H, **Kestrels:** Skye S, **Birch:** Casey-Jo G,  
**Willow:** Kai M, **Rowan:** Molly L

## Collective Worship

This week's collective worship focus is:

### JESUS AS A FRIEND

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hears my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

**Revelation 3:20**

### Stepping Stones at St Nicholas Church

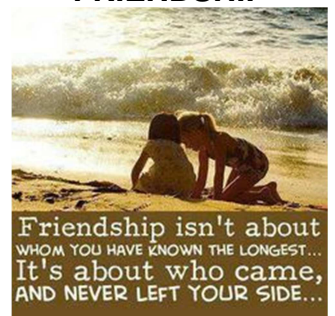
Restarts Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January for Pre-school Children, Parents & Carers  
1.45pm – 2.45pm, for Food, Fun and Fellowship.

### Romney Marsh Community Church – Friday Club

Meets Friday 6 - 7.30pm for children in school years 3 – 6

It's an informal social time for children to join in with fun games and activities and chill together.

## Our Current Value is, FRIENDSHIP



## 'Keeping up with the children – Maths' - Reminder

Would you like to know more about how your children learn maths and help them practise their maths skills?

- Learn more about how your children learn maths in school
- Make games and practical activities and discover new ways to support your children at home
- Understand the language of maths that your child learns at school and use new vocabulary
- Have fun, meet other parents/carers and share ideas.



If so this course is for you!

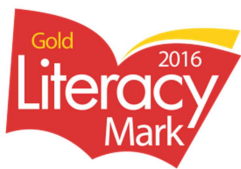
It will be held at school each **Wednesday starting 22<sup>nd</sup> February until Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March Starting at 9.00am to 11.00am.** Refreshments provided.

To book call/ text Lisa, our FLO on 07530113107 or leave a message at the school office. We would love to see as many of you as possible for this valuable training for parents.

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### Reminder

Thank you to parents for the continued support in using of the green gates on Fairfield Road. We believe that the children's safety is paramount. With this in mind we would like to remind you that children must not be dropped off and collected through the Main Office and car park unless prior arrangements have been made.



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